

To Whom It May Concern:

If the FCC begins to regulate radio stations in these new ways, it will eliminate the listener's right to listen to good Christian Radio. Christian Radio is a right given to the people by our forefathers, and I for one will not be denied this right! Christian Radio is an important part of my life and many other Americans as well.

The first Amendment in the Constitution guarantees the freedom of Religion and the Press. This I believe includes private radio stations. Many court cases in the past have allowed the FCC to regulate improper behavior and language of public radio stations. This is all well and good to protect children and others from being exposed to undesirable things; however it should not be given the power over good, wholesome radio stations.

I understand that the reason why these new regulation are being considered is to give the listeners in the community control over their local radio stations. Although in theory this sounds like a good thing for listeners, it will indirectly kill many good Christian Radio stations. Christians should have a way to express themselves freely over the radio. If the power over the broadcasting is given to people in the community, the true message of Christ might not get out in the way it should. Members of the Community Council might not be Christians and therefore will inflict their views over the radio. If Christian radio stations are controlled by others, their freedom of speech is being inhibited.

Christian Radio stations are also nonprofit and rely on the donation of money from the community. This means that the new regulations require additional staffing and locations that many radio stations would have to close down due to lack of funding. Although the community supports them, their money would be used less efficiently and might not stretch far enough. Many of the public outreach programs would be lost as well. Christian Radio stations offer many services to the public such as full time pastors to talk to about anything, mission opportunities, and clean family fun. This would all be lost if what limited funding they have is diverted to needless staff. Nothing is worth losing all of the benefits that these stations offer!

There are many more reasons that this kind of regulations are wrong that I do not have time to go into. I will leave you with this, if people in the American people did not support Christian Radio Stations, these radio stations would have ceased to exist long ago. If these new regulations are imposed, many good, uplifting radio stations will be lost. The freedom to express ourselves for many who cannot afford CD's will be lost. Why would anyone enforce legislation that would inhibit so many people's rights and freedoms in the "Land of the *FREE*"? No matter what you decide my God is in control and the Christian people of America will survive; but many who hear the Good News through the Radio, and many who NEED the services offered by these radio stations may not get the help and support that they rely on.

God Bless,

Amanda Hazelton